

Sheep, Lambs, and Wool

Arizona's sheep and lamb inventory on January 1, 2003 was estimated at 131,000 head, down 3,000 from a year ago. Breeding sheep and lamb inventory, at 65,000 head, decreased 1,000 head from January 1, 2002. Market sheep and lambs inventory, at 66,000 head, decreased by 2,000 head from the previous year.

Sheep and lamb marketings in 2002 were 95,000 head, 7,000 less

than 2001. Average prices received by sheep operators in 2002, per hundredweight, were \$33.00 for sheep, down \$4.80 from 2001, and \$74.00 for lambs, up \$4.00 from 2001. Cash receipts totaled \$6.5 million, down 1 percent from a year earlier.

Average wool prices increased 2 cents to 32 cents per pound. Wool production was valued at \$227,000, up 2 percent from the previous year.

Sheep: Number of Operations and Inventory 1/

	----- January 1 -----						
	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Arizona							
Operations (Number)	350	300	300	300	270	270	2/
Inventory (1,000 Head)	150.0	140.0	140.0	155.0	132.0	134.0	131.0
United States							
Operations (Number)	72,680	68,550	66,800	66,100	65,120	64,170	2/
Inventory (1,000 Head)	8,023.7	7,825.1	7,215.0	7,032.0	6,965.0	6,685.0	6,350.0

1/ An operation is any place having one or more sheep on hand during the year.

2/ Not available until January 2004.

Sheep: By Class, Farm Value, and Lamb Crop

	----- January 1 -----						
	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Breeding sheep and lambs (1,000 Head)							
Ewes	65.0	63.0	58.0	58.0	55.0	57.0	56.0
Rams	2.0	2.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0
Replacement lambs	8.0	8.0	7.0	5.0	7.0	6.0	6.0
Market sheep and lambs (1,000 Head)	75.0	67.0	72.0	89.0	67.0	68.0	66.0
All sheep and lambs (1,000 Head)	150.0	140.0	140.0	155.0	132.0	134.0	131.0
Farm Value							
Per head (Dollars)	100	110	89	96	98	96	115
Total (1,000 Dollars)	15,000	15,400	12,460	14,880	12,936	12,864	15,065
Lamb crop (1,000 Head)	48.0	47.0	45.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	1/

1/ Not available until January 2004.

Sheep and Lambs: Inventory, Supply, and Disposition

	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
	----- 1,000 Head -----						
Inventory January 1	150	140	140	155	132	134	131
Lamb crop	48	47	45	40	40	40	3/
In-shippments	82	76	85	69	81	68	3/
Marketings 1/							
Sheep	9	11	5	9	14	7	3/
Lambs	102	88	93	105	88	88	3/
Farm slaughter 2/	19	20	13	15	13	13	3/
Deaths							
Sheep	3	2	2	2	2	2	3/
Lambs	7	2	2	1	2	1	3/

1/ Includes animals for custom slaughter for use on farms where produced and State out-shippments, but excludes inter-farm sales within the State.

2/ Excludes custom slaughter for farmers at commercial establishments.

3/ Not available until January 2004.